

## A New Species of Colydiinae (Coleoptera, Zopheridae) from Tokunoshima Island, Southwestern Japan

**Jun-ichi AOKI**

3–8–12 Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 106–0031 Japan

**Abstract** A new colydiine species of the genus *Synchita* is described from Tokunoshima Island under the name of *Synchita hirsuta*, which is distinguishable from the congeners by long elytral setae and pronotal disc with network of irregular ridges.

The genus *Synchita* is one of the largest genera in the subfamily Colydiinae. Most of the species have small body of rounded outline, no prominent projections nor ridges, often showing various color patterns on elytra. Nine species of the genus *Synchita* have hitherto been known from Japan. An additional species was found from Tokunoshima Island of the Ryukyu Archipelago and is described herewith as a new species.

Before going further, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Shun-Ichi UENO, emeritus curator of the National Museum of Nature and Science, for his critical reading of the manuscript.

### *Synchita hirsuta* sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–8)

Body length: 2.15–2.20 mm.

Color: — Head, antennae and legs reddish brown; pronotum blackish or reddish brown; elytra blackish brown; body setae white.

Head wholly covered with irregular network, bearing fine, short bristles and longer setae with irregular margins. Interfacetal setae of eyes fine and minute. Antennae (Fig. 2) 10-segmented; antennomere 3 longer than 4–6; antennomeres 7–9 gradually increasing in size (both in length and width), connecting to large, rounded club; club densely covered with short setae and fewer numbers of longer setae, except in basal one-third lacking in setae and showing vague pattern of network.

Prothorax becoming slightly wider posteriorly; anterior angles not or only barely produced; pronotal sides nearly straight, crenulate, each side provided with 12 denticles, each bearing an expanded seta with serrate margin (Fig. 3); disc appearing to have granular surface structure, but actually providing with network of irregular ridges and two types of setae: short simple bristles (Fig. 8 A) and expanded setae with serrate margin (Fig. 8 B).

Elytra  $1.6\times$  as long as wide, bearing nine rows of punctures; each puncture with central rectangular hole; a hole connected with succeeding hole by short longitudinal band (Fig. 5); two types of setae observed on elytra, minute, simple setae inserted on connecting bands and long, expanded setae with serrate margin situated between puncture rows alternately; the latter setae nearly as long as longitudinal distance between their insertion pores.

Pro-, meso- and metasterna as well as ventrites 1–5 with irregular network and minute, simple bristles. On distal margin of tibiae 11–12 conical teeth tightly arranged.

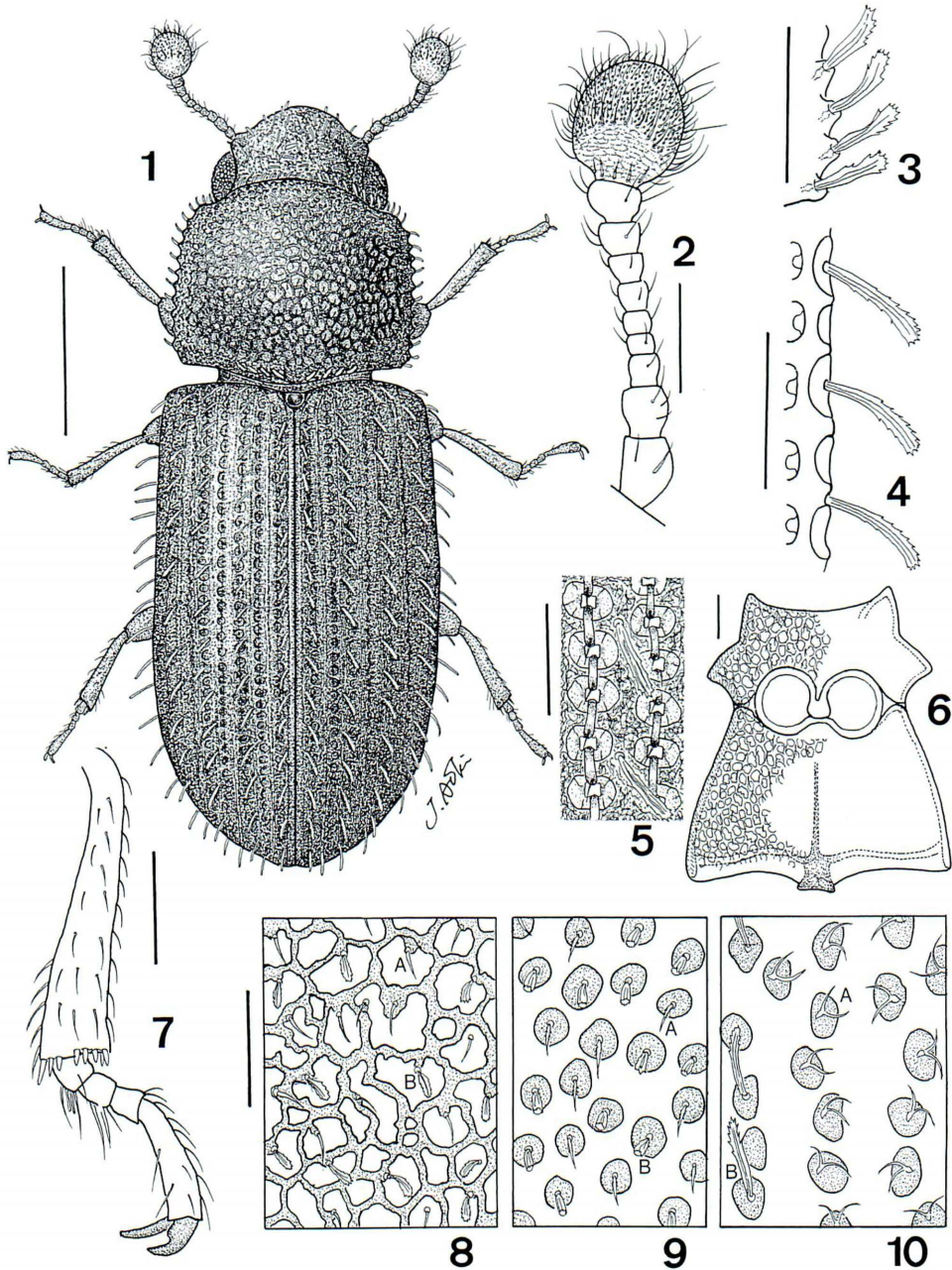
*Type series.* Holotype ♀ and 2 paratypes: The foot of Mt. Amagi, Tokunoshima Island, S. Japan. 1–IX–2008. J. AOKI leg. Holotype (NSMT-I-C 200123) and 1 paratype (NSMT-I-C 200124) are deposited in the collection of the National Museum of Nature and Science, Tokyo.

*Notes.* Species of the genus *Synchita* often exhibit color pattern on the elytra. However, five Japanese species including the new species have black or blackish brown elytra without color pattern and are distinguishable from one another by the following key:

1. Pronotum becoming narrower posteriorly. ....2  
 — Pronotum not becoming narrower posteriorly. ....3
2. Elytra long, about  $3.4\times$  as long as pronotum; lateral pronotal margins finely serrate; body length about 3.5 mm. ....*S. angustissima* (NAKANE, 1968)  
 — Elytra not so long, about  $2.5\times$  as long as pronotum; lateral margins of pronotum with strong spines; body length 1.8–2.0 mm. ....*S. bonina* (NAKANE, 1991)
3. Elytral setae long, each almost reaching insertion of succeeding seta; pronotal disc with irregular network; teeth arranged on distal margin of tibiae blunt at tip; body length 2.15–2.20 mm. ....*S. hirsuta* sp. nov.  
 — Elytral setae short, never reaching insertion of succeeding seta; pronotal disc with granules (Figs. 9 and 10); teeth arranged on distal margin of tibiae pointed at tip. ....4
4. Pronotal and elytral setae never bifid; antennomeres 7–9 gradually increasing in size; pronotal disc with granules densely arranged (Fig. 9). Body length 2.00–2.70 mm. ....*S. hayashii* (SASAJI, 1971)  
 — Pronotal and elytral setae bifid in part; antennomeres 7–9 equal in size to one another; pronotal disc with granules sparsely arranged (Fig. 10). Body length 1.85–2.20 mm. ....*S. tokarensis* (NAKANE, 1967)

Among the Austro-Pacific species of *Synchita*, *S. australis* CATER et ZECK, 1937 is most similar to the new species, but is distinguishable from the new species by shorter elytral setae and longer elytra (elytra/pronotum in length = 2.82 in *australis*, 2.30 in *hirsuta*).





Figs. 1-10. — 1-8, *Synchita hirsuta* sp. nov.; 9, *Synchita hayashii* (SASAJI); 10, *Synchita tokarensis* (NAKANE). — 1, Dorsal side; 2, antenna; 3, a part of lateral marginal setae on pronotum; 4, a part of elytral setae; 5, surface sculpture and two types of setae on elytron; 6, pterosternum; 7, foreleg; 8-10, surface structures of pronotal disc (8, *S. hirsuta*; 9, *S. hayashii*; 10, *S. tokarensis*) [1, holotype; 2-8, paratype]. (Scale: 0.5 mm for 1; 0.1 mm for 2-10.)

## 要 約

青木淳一：徳之島から発見されたホソカタムシの 1 新種（甲虫目コブゴミムシダマシ科）。——日本産ヒメヒラタホソカタムシ属 *Synchita* には 9 種が知られているが、今回、鹿児島県の徳之島から 10 種目の新種が見出され、ケブカヒメヒラタホソカタムシ（新称）*Synchita hirsuta* sp. nov. と命名し、記載した。日本産既知 9 種のうち、ハヤシヒメヒラタホソカタムシ *S. hayashii* (SASAJI, 1971), クロヒメヒラタホソカタムシ *S. tokarensis* (NAKANE, 1967) および本新種の 3 種は上翅に斑紋がないこと、前胸背板が後方に向かって狭まらずに、やや幅広くなることにおいてよく似ているが、本新種では前胸背板の表面構造が顆粒状ではなく網目状であり、上翅の毛がはるかに長い点で他の 2 近似種と区別される。

## References

- CARTER, H. J., & E. H. ZECK, 1937. A monograph of the Australian Colydiidae. *Proc. Linn. Soc. NSW*, **62**: 181–208, 2 pls.
- NAKANE, T., 1967. New or little-known Coleoptera from Japan and its adjacent regions, XXVI. *Fragm. coleopterol.*, Tokyo, (18): 75–76.
- 1991. Notes on some little-known beetles (Coleoptera) in Japan. 7. *Kita-Kyûshû no Konchû, Kokura*, **38**: 1–9.
- SASAJI, H., 1971. Description of a new *Cicones*-species in Japan (Coleoptera: Colydiidae). *Life Study, Fukui*, **15**: 43–45.